

**Amendments to the specification:**

Please amend the paragraph on page 40, line 22 to page 41, line 9 as follows:

AI Subsequently, as the coordinate  $j$  is incremented, the coordinate  $i$  is successively varied from 0 to  $(I0-1)$  so as to determine the presence/absence and the type of defect for each pixel at a coordinate position  $(0-(I0-1), j)$ . The determination of the presence/absence and the type of defect for all the pixels is complete when  $i+1$  is determined to be equal to  $(I0-1)$  ("Yes" is given at step 110) while  $j+1$  is determined to be equal to  $(J0-1)$  ("Yes" is given at step 113). Then, the processor 15 reads out the type of defect of each pixel having a defect and the coordinate position thereof from the picture memory 11, and stores the data in the EEPROM 12 (step 117).